

Appln No. 10/688,781
Amdt date June 25, 2007
Reply to Office action of May 10, 2007

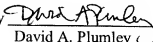
REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office action dated May 10, 2007, the examiner rejected claims 1, 3, 4, 7-9, 13 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly anticipated by Kugai, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,699,619). However, applicant has canceled each of claims 1, 3, 4, 7-9, 13 and 16, thereby obviating this rejection. In addition, applicant has amended claims 11 and 12 to depend from independent claim 5.

The examiner allowed claims 5, 6, 14, 15 and 17-24. These claims remain in their allowable form, and applicant therefore submits that these claims remain allowable. Amended claims 11 and 12, which now depend from allowable claim 5, are also allowable.

Claims 5, 6, 14, 15 and 17-24 now remain pending in this application. By this amendment, applicant has canceled claims 1, 3, 4, 7-9, 13 and 16, and amended claims 11 and 12 to change the dependency of those claims. In light of the above amendments and remarks, applicant submits that all of pending claims 5, 6, 14, 15 and 17-24 are in condition for allowance. Applicant therefore respectfully requests reconsideration and timely indication of allowance. However, if there are any remaining issues that can be addressed by telephone, applicant invites the examiner to contact applicant's counsel at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,
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